

Defunct facility, owner named in federal indictment

By Heather Nolan | July 19, 2012

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The federal [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) fined the company \$1.5 million for safety violations after an investigation into the death.

None of the federal indictments alleged against Bowman is related to any events that happened in Houston.

In 2008, the [Texas Attorney General's Office](#) filed a lawsuit attempting to shut down the company.

The Port Arthur facility was open on Gulfway Drive from about November 2008 to November 2010, producing caustic materials for paper mills. Hydrogen sulfide, a poisonous gas, was involved in the process.

According to the indictment, handed down in April of this year and unsealed Wednesday, Bowman was responsible for approving and directing production operations, the disposal of hydrogen sulfide wastewater and employee safety precautions.

In some cases, the indictment states, Bowman personally handled the investigation of work-related employee injuries.

If convicted, Bowman could face as many as five years in prison and as much as a \$250,000 fine on most of the indictment's counts. The company can be fined as much as \$500,000.

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